

R2 –WEEKLY BULLETIN

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TIP of the Week Know Your OUTLOOK

By Yen Pan
IT Services Branch

Knowing the quirks of your Outlook email system can save both time and aggravation.

- If you have emptied your Deleted Items folder, but need to retrieve a message that is less than 30 days old, view the Deleted Items folder, and select Recover Deleted Items. Then select the message you want to recover. The message will be returned to the Deleted Items folder.
- Messages with attachments larger than 10 MB cannot be emailed. If you must share larger files, please contact the Help Desk to request a folder on a shared drive.
- Please do not use the following characters in subject lines: & % ... / \
Users of Outlook Web Access will not be able to open them.

If you have any questions about these standards, please contact the Help Desk.

RANDOM NOTES



CALLING ALL DAEs

The Disaster Reserve Workforce Division (DRWD) is creating an e-mail distribution list to disseminate reserve workforce information when you are NOT deployed. This information will include news flashes, newsletters, agency surveys, policy, program and cadre updates.

To get on this distribution list, send your *personal email address* with full name, region or affiliation to:

FEMA-DRWD-Program@dhs.gov

Please include "Email Participation" in the subject line.



ALL EMERGENCY MANAGERS



By Michael Moriarty, Acting Regional Administrator

Slipping Sysiphus

Sometimes the struggle alone is enough to fill your heart, but other times, we need results. In Greek mythology the character of Sysiphus stands out as one who is fulfilled by the struggle. If you recall the story, it is about a man who continually pushes a large round stone up a hill only to have it roll down again. Yet, he does it over and over again with the same result. Let's try to stay out of the Sysiphus School. Rather, let's try to change things up a bit and test new strategies to see if we can get to the top together. Although it is difficult to address cultural change issues in a short newsletter article, I would like to germinate some seeds (it is almost spring, after all). If we are going to further improve the Region's readiness posture to favorably respond to disasters, then EVERYONE of us has to be considered a responder. Each member of the team needs to be ready to minimize misery and restore a semblance of normalcy to our fellow citizens when impacted by disaster.

To realize this, everyone will have an emergency assignment going forward. I have asked Dug Salley to prepare rosters for two 15 member ERT-As (a.k.a. Type III IMATs) to deploy in instances when the RII IMAT is unavailable. I have also asked him to provide backups for each position of the RII IMAT in case one or more of those members become sick or incapacitated and can't deploy. I have also asked him to roster a full staff for our RRCC (roughly 55 positions) When you do the math you can see that we need over 100 emergency positions. Lastly, I have asked Dug to find ways to broaden the pool of players in Exercise Vigilant Guard later this month to include some new members of the team or those who may not have current experience in the RRCC. Keep an open mind and it will be rewarding.

DAEs ...Deployment Notes

By Cynthia Paul, Region II External Affairs DAE

For DAEs, a disaster deployment defines much of our work. When we get together, we often talk about our travels, adventures, and the problems of living out of a suitcase.

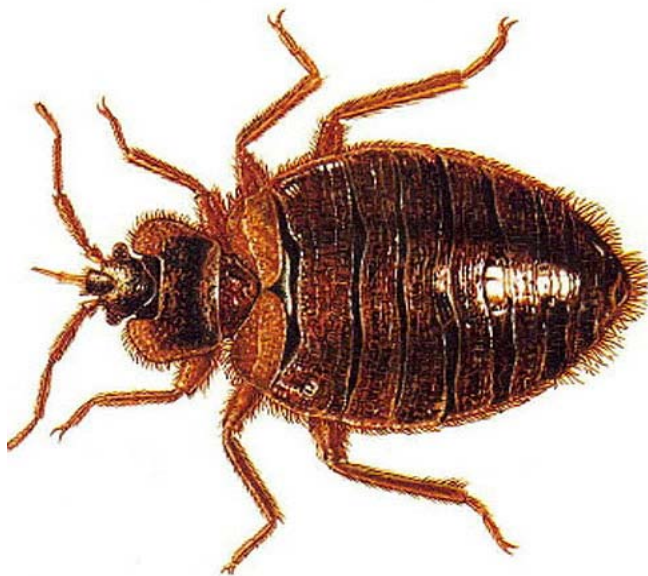
I recently heard about *bedbugs* from a fellow DAE, who had first-hand experience with a problem plaguing hotels across the country. Bedbug infestations have been on the rise worldwide for the past decade.

Both Toronto and Cincinnati have city-wide bedbug taskforces, which New York is looking to replicate. The number of reported bedbug infestations has risen in New York from two in FY03 to 9,213 in FY08. Next month, (April 14), the EPA will host a two-day conference in Washington on the public health implications of bedbug infestations.

A bedbug is a small nocturnal insect that lives by feeding on the blood of humans and other warm-blooded hosts. Bites consist of raised red bumps, or flat welts, and are accompanied by intense itching.

To protect yourself:

1. Call your hotel you and ask if they have had a bedbug problem;
2. Leave your luggage outside the room and do a quick investigation *first*;
3. Lift the sheets off the mattress *quickly*, as they scatter fast (they have a reddish hue);
4. Check around and behind the headboard, inside mattress seams and pillow cases;
5. Never leave your clothes lying on the bed. Elevate your luggage off floor, and close luggage when not in use.



FACES OF REGION II



Adie Koby – Program Specialist, Risk Analysis

Adie Koby is FEMA Flexible.

She began working for the Federal government in 1996 as a Grant Officer/Technical Representative (GOTR) for the Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration (ETA), where she oversaw more than \$80 million in employment services formula and congressional grants for the New York region.

In 2005, ETA re-organized its operations, consolidating its 10 regional offices to six, and forcing Adie and her family to move to Boston, “We had to deal with the new reality,” Adie says.

“Since I am used to dealing with change, and have traveled widely, I just viewed it as another opportunity, but for my kids it was a real crisis. They went from living on the Lower East Side to the countryside of Brookline, Ma. It was beautiful, but we had to adjust to New England culture, its’ slower pace and colder weather. It was nothing like NYC,” Adie says.

“But I’m very optimistic and blessed with a gift of turning lemons to great lemonade. We made great friends and have lovely memories. My kids went off to college, and now when they complain, it’s about missing Boston.”

In the Boston, Adie was the Federal Project Officer (FPO) Team Lead for the State of Maine. She loved working with a state partner, and is glad she made the move, but found that her professional focus had changed. She is currently enrolled in Fairleigh Dickinson University’s Master of Advanced Science (MAS) program, and recently committed to a focus in Emergency Management Administration.



